

Lessons Learned: Transferring Paper Records to Web-based Applications

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GreenRiver.org



History of Raymark Superfund Site (Stratford, CT)

- Raymark Industries manufactured brake parts from 1935 to 1989
- Lagoons with waste material dredged and distributed throughout town as fill material from 1950's to 1970's

History of Raymark Continued

- Established Stratford Health Department as local clearinghouse
- Tested over 600 properties for the presence of Raymark waste

Issues: POLICY & POLITICS

- 13 of 46 cleaned up residential properties with “residual waste left in place”
- NO agency willing to place “deed restriction” on residential properties

Issues: POLICY & POLITICS

- LONG-TERM responsibility for tracking residential properties falls to the Town of Stratford
- CTDEP oversight of commercial and municipal properties (with Environmental Land Use Restrictions (ELUR))

The Charge

- Archive and preserve paper files for 13 residential properties
- Discover documents in Stratford Health Department, EPA, CTDEP & CTDPH possession
- Create user-friendly, accessible files **for the public**

Our Expanded Scope

- Originally 13 residential properties
- Now incorporates sampling and health assessment data on 380 residential, municipal, and commercial properties

The Challenges

- Town IT in transition
 - paper records in building dept,
 - electronic records in assessors office
 - Etc...
- Initial lack of understanding at federal and state levels
 - compliance with national standards
 - long term archive

The Solution

- Discover, digitize, and archive documents
- Create searchable database of property-specific information
- Create application that transcends technological changes

Digital Preservation

- Site designed to be accessible directly from the file system with no dependencies on database or web scripting technologies
- GIS (using Open GIS) built but can be turned off

What's In The Website?

- Site currently includes
 - Pre and post excavation sampling data
 - Army Corp of Engineers blueprint maps
 - Health implications statements from the CT DPH and ATSDR
 - Other associated documents

Stratford Environmental Cleanup Website

Providing information about:

- ▶ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency soil sampling in Stratford between 1992 and 2004 for the presence of potentially hazardous waste from Raymark Industries, Inc.
- ▶ Measures taken to clean up [Raymark waste](#).
- ▶ Property-by-property digging and construction restrictions involving Raymark waste.

Click on the arrows below to find out more about this project, access the property search section, go to helpful links or read about the history of the Raymark Industries, Inc. Superfund site in the Town of Stratford, CT.

Environmental
Cleanup Website



About this Project



Search Properties

Stratford
Connecticut



Real Estate & Permits Issues



Cleanup History



[Related Links](#) | [Website Info](#) | [Contact Us](#)



Home > Search Properties

- [Understanding the Cleanup Documents](#)
- [Post-test Follow-up](#)
- [Terms and Definitions](#)
- [FAQs](#)



Search by Name

Enter the Street Address, Tax Assessor's Parcel ID or Property Name

Search

Browse by Category

Click a category below to view a list of properties. For general information about each category, click [here](#).

- [Excavated Residential Properties with No Restrictions](#)
- [Excavated Residential Properties with Restrictions](#)
- [Unexcavated Residential Properties](#)
- [Residential Properties \(Tested but NO Raymark Waste Found\).](#)
- [Commercial Properties](#)

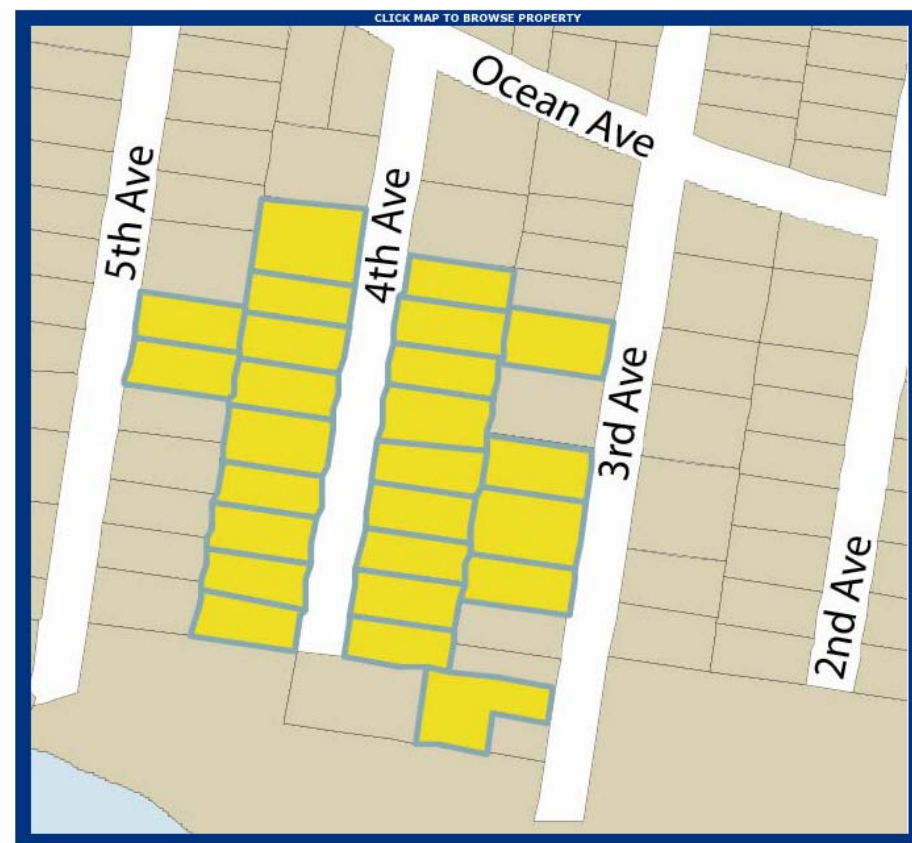
Search by Map

Choose a region below to see the parcels in that area.





[Related Links](#) | [Website Info](#) | [Contact Us](#)



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No Digging Restrictions

Explanation:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sampled this property for the presence of Raymark waste ([insert link](#)) and found none. There are no restrictions on digging below the surface of the property. Click [Real Estate & Permit Issues](#) to see which activities require permits from the Town of Stratford.

To view copies of documents prepared for this property, click the listings under "Type of Document" below.

Date	Type of Document	Agency	File Size
N/A	Map		0.02MB
N/A	Map		0.39MB
12/01/1994	Public Health Implications Statement, Final	ATSDR*/CTDPH**	0.02MB
7/28/1993	Public Health Implications Statement	ATSDR*/CTDPH**	0.02MB
8/02/1993	Public Health Implications Statement	ATSDR*/CTDPH**	0.02MB
N/A	Fed On Scene Coordinators Report	EPA	1.80MB
4/27/1995	Procedures for Confirming Test Results	EPA	0.19MB

Contact Information

Elaine O'Keefe
Director of Health
203-385-4090

William McCann
Conservation
Administrator
203-385-4016

- Understanding the Cleanup Documents
- Post-test Follow-up
- Terms and Definitions
- FAQs



Restrictions

- Do not dig below 4 feet in the backyard indicated by grid numbers: 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11 and 12.
- Do not dig below the surface next to the foundation along the southern edge your home indicated by grid numbers: 27 and 28.
- Do not dig below the surface next to the stairs along the front of your home indicated by grid numbers: 34 and 35.

Explanation:

Soil testing by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found Raymark waste. The EPA removed some Raymark waste and retested the soil. Federal and state agencies reviewed the final test results.

Where Raymark waste was left in place, the EPA added a layer of protective material, such as clean soil. Disturbing the soil in these areas could expose the Raymark waste and create the possibility of a health risk. Consequently, the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the Connecticut Department of Public Health have restricted digging in these areas.

If you dig in restricted areas, the Town ' s public health code requires you to follow state and federal procedures for managing the soil safely. You are encouraged to seek help from Town and/or private professionals before beginning work of this type. You may need to present sampling

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Public Health Implications Statement
for

Stratford, CT

The federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health and Addiction Services (CTDPHAS) have evaluated the enclosed information. Based on that evaluation, the health agencies believe that no health threat exists at this location at this time.

The health agencies have made the following recommendation:

1. Since contamination may be below the surface at this location, samples should be collected from areas underground.

If you have questions or comments, please call the CTDPHAS hotline at 240-9024 or the Stratford Health Department at 385-4090.

Signature



Date: July 22, 1993

Type of Sample: Surface Soil Screening
Date of Sample: 7/7/93

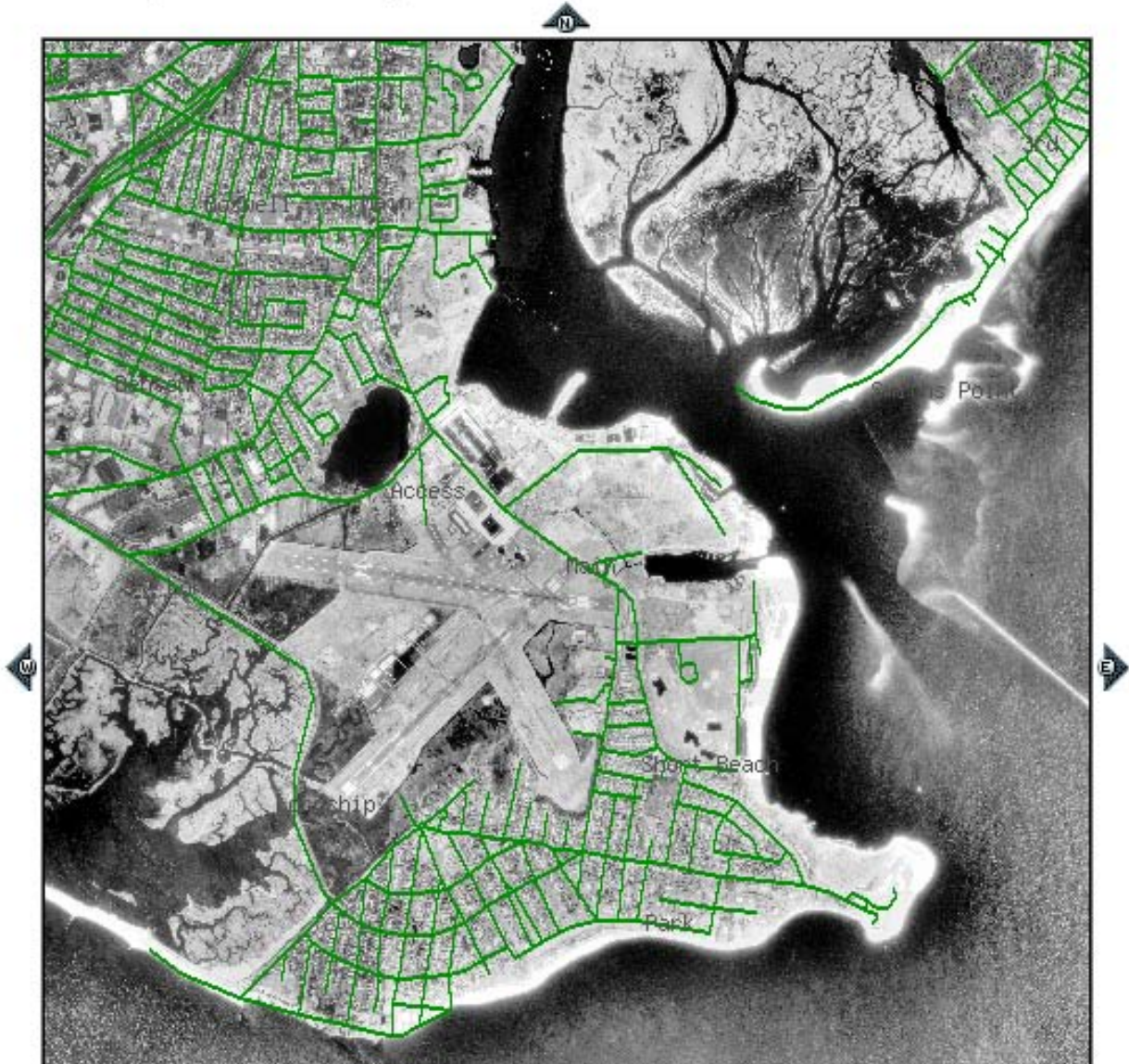
ATSDR Reviewers: David Mellard, Ph.D., Lynn Wilder, Rich Nickle

CTDPHAS Reviewers: Diane Aye

Stratford, CT Raymark Superfund ICS

Tools

- Zoom In
- Zoom Out
- Re-center
- Query
- Home
- Refresh



Legend

Vis.	Qry.	Img.	Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Parcels
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		US Census 2000 Tiger Roads
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		USGS Orthophoto Mosaic

Near Term Development

- Painstaking editorial process
 - Fact checking (QA/QC sheets developed)
 - Enhance educational focus of content
- Incorporate feedback from Town, EPA, CTDEP, & CTDPH
- Add documents for commercial properties currently being evaluated

Looking Long Term

- Funding for updating, maintaining the application?
- Tie-in with CT's CALL BEFORE YOU DIG (CBYD)?
- Compliance with national standards for data storage and other systems?
- Expand to properties beyond Raymark-impacted waste?

Lessons

- ICs should be developed throughout the process
 - Difficulty finding and organizing paper records despite short time that has elapsed.
 - Local knowledge of cleanup lost quickly

Lessons

- Example of the partnership between EPA, DEP and local government to ensure long term stewardship
- Importance of good leadership at the local level
- Surprisingly large return on investment from a public health perspective!

Contacts



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